

Regional Industry Clusters of Opportunity Grant (RICOG)

Questions and Answers

November 3, 2009

1. **Are the commitment letters to be attached only for documenting commitment of matching funds?**

Commitment letters are REQUIRED for applicants stating cash and/or in-kind match. Commitment letters that document partnerships would not hurt your application.

2. **The comment is noted that contracted services have to go through a competitive bid process. Is this so even if you name a particular contractor/partner as a specific part of your project?**

We would direct you to **WIA Directive #WIAD00-2**. As stated in this directive, it “provides combined state and federal guidance regarding the procurement of goods and services by entities receiving Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds. These entities include but are not limited to Local Workforce Investment Boards, One-Stop Operators, and their subrecipients.

3. **Our WIB is applying for the clusters of opportunity grant as the lead WIB. However, at least one other partnership of a group of WIBs near our region has asked us to join them on a joint application. We would not be the lead or the primary financial recipient of funding. Would we be able to join this second group of WIBs as a partner without jeopardizing our own grant application where we are the lead?**

Yes, if a WIB is demonstrating regional partnership in their application, they may include multiple WIBs as well as other public and private entities – as long as the *submitting* WIB is the lead. This does not preclude each of those named local boards from submitting their own application.